

## **Data Purchase and Access Working Group**

**December 7, 2017**

**Adobe Connect: <https://cdp.adobeconnect.com/theboardroom/>**

**Teleconference: 1-866-398-2885**

### **Attendance:**

- Auburn and Blair (WDG)
- Evan Nemeth (Nova Scotia)
- Heath Priston (Toronto)
- Ken Clarke (Perth Huron)
- Jasmine Ing (Calgary)
- Sian Jones (Calgary)
- Laurie Dixon (Kingston)
- Louisa Wong (Hamilton)
- Natalie Hui (York)
- Olga Belanovskaya (Simcoe)
- Amanda Richards (Peel)
- Ted Hildebrandt (Halton)
- Michael Ditor (CDP)
- Julie Lam (CDP)

### **Agenda:**

- Status of orders (cost estimate requests, geocoding)
- ENVISION5 – cancelling licenses, potential replacements
- ePCCF – can no longer distribute, looking to Statcan
- Credit report characteristics – go back to transunion?
- Priority file review
- Auburn: Single year of age at all levels of geography
- Jasmine: review priority file and standard tables at smaller geo
- Unemployment by age (if subgroup is ready to discuss)
- Income inequality and working poverty table from census (Calgary request)

### **Action items:**

- For Leads: Give suggestions/alternatives to Envision.
- For CDP: Ask Statistics Canada if Age (127) & Sex (3) will be standard for population centres geography.
- For CDP: Update priority file after getting information from Statistics Canada and share to the working group.

### **Cost estimates**

- We will a lot of information by the end of this week from Statistics Canada. Regarding geocoding – the high end of cost may be double what we might have estimated, so that would reduce what we can acquire this program year 2017-18. As a start, we will use the file that was sent to the

working group. For now, we estimate that we can order approximately 22 tables including custom geographies, under the assumption that geocoding is done soon and that we can start placing orders. The priority list still needs a bit of refining, but we do need to get some orders underway to get the data as soon as possible. There are some high priority tables that are ready.

## ENVISION and PCCF

- These products go together – they both come from Envision Analytics. We are no longer able to distribute cuts of the ePCCF. EA is also not fine with us rotating Envision seats to our members. This product is expensive, so perhaps it would be better (cost-wise) to look for other alternatives.
- We can bring this up in the next meeting. If anyone knows about any software similar to Envision, please let us know. If you are interested in using ENVISION, tell us what you are/will be using it for, so we can search for alternatives. It would be greatly appreciated! **Action item.**
- Instead of the ePCCF, we may be able to get the PCCF from Statistics Canada, however they put a hold on PCCF while they are in negotiations with Canada Post, so that can take a while before we get a substitute. This file is an interest to many members.

## Credit Report Characteristics

- The program was supposed to get mortgage debt by end of last year, but there was too much back and forth with Equifax that caused some delays. We did eventually get data from them, but they cannot complete our requests as we asked. We are looking for mortgage debt data, as well as consumer debt data for all consumers and for only consumers carrying debt. We want these two denominators, but Equifax is telling us (after the agreement is signed) that they cannot do this.
- We have asked TransUnion, they seem to be able to supply this data. Hopefully this delay is not a problem for anyone.
- **Evan Nemeth (NS):** That makes sense to me.
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** We do not have an immediate need for the data. However, I thought we had some problems with TransUnion and customer service. Have those issues been resolved?
- **Auburn & Blair:** No immediate need here either
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** And TransUnion can provide us with the "with debt" denominator?
- We are currently in the proposal stage with TransUnion – they seem to be making a lot of promises at the moment. Hopefully, they say that they can deliver the product as we asked!
- **Heath (Toronto):** that would be worth waiting for, but we don't have a pressing need here for this data either
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** Same as Calgary, Peel and Toronto, York Region also does not have an urgent need for such data.
- As a note, we may be stuck with Equifax for the next year and come back with TransUnion for 2018 Q1 data. We shall see!

## Priority File Review

- Cost of tables now are a mix between estimates we received and costs from previous years. For custom table orders, we have taken a stab at how much it is expected to cost and the high end cost for a custom geo table is \$1600. Note, with increased geocoding cost, this guesstimate may need to be revised.
- **Heath:** one question about some tables we are taking about – for example the concern on unemployment by age. There was some support for that idea. I don't see that in the table, where would that factor in? another observation – one table that is highly rated that may not be crucial? We target group profile of immigrant population is less a priority this year (can delay to April, May)
- **Mike:** Can we defer some of these orders to next program year and for some specific requests, we can find where they fit in the priority list and whether or not they be bumping other tables off.
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** Mike, we would like to vote for/bump up the TGP for LICO-BT (not necessarily into this round, but we'd like to add our vote)
- **Mike:** Details can be worked offline in emails – let us know if we should bump out table and what we should replace... employment table?
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** interested in adding sex to that table. Also, in general, in some cases we have identified tables that are similar to statcan website, identified what geos too. We might already have CMA for free, so would the tables be cheaper to remove CMA level of data?
- **Mike:** If ordering data CT then may include CMA.
- **Heath:** LIPs would be very interested in newcomer data
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** issue would be – do we have things like place birth at small level of geo? Some cases when Syria population resettled, wanted to know newcomer data
- **Heath:** I believe it's limited.
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** place of birth is important to know. Want to know existing population and newcomer data
- **Heath:** what do you mean by deferring?
- **Mike:** delaying until April, not a full year
- **Auburn & Blair:** I think that demotion makes sense. That's a large, all-encompassing group of individuals and I think the interest is in the experiences of new immigrants, if we're ranking these as priorities
- **Auburn:** target group profile for working poor
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** one proposal is to trade tgp aged 65+ with tgp crossed by age. In Calgary, francophone table not a particular need
- **Heath:** we can wait for that too in Toronto
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** Same for York Region, TGP of Francophone is not important to us.
- **Laurie Dixon:** we do need the francophone TGP in Kingston, can't get that anywhere else. We are getting requests for this data – we are waiting for it. That is one of our priorities. We want this before the summer.
- **Evan Nemeth (NS):** same, we have large communities of francophone
- Demote activity limitations table

- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** For those marked with "ordered", could we assume the data (including those at custom geos) will be delivered by early March 2018?
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** I had put in a vote for the TGP for LICO-BT, just wanted to make sure that was recorded. Core housing need is important for us. Resort the list – hard to keep track own copy
- **Mike:** Hopefully we can get information from StatCan soon so that we can update cost estimates
- **Auburn:** reason for single year of age is for rural areas, level at population centres
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** Row 28: Target group profile of the low income population (MBM) is not that important for us here at York Region
- **Heath (Toronto):** we might want to ask stacan if they're going to make data available at pop ctr level, too
- Ask if this will be standard from Statistics Canada. **Action item.**
- **Auburn & Blair:** I don't think they have in the past, but I could be wrong
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** I would vote for core housing need as well
- **Heath (Toronto):** you can get ct level core housing need right now BTW, here's the link: <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/dp-pd/chn-biml/index-eng.cfm>
- **Mike:** The standard Core Housing Need table does not offer much in way of cross-tabulations.

#### Income inequality and working poor

- Working on the TGP for income inequality and working poor for the next program year. Jasmine (Calgary) and Auburn (WDG) would like this table, with the same definitions as the Taxfiler data. Getting the deciles would be very useful for this table, and have it match up with Census. If there is space, we add some additional dimensions.
- **Auburn & Blair:** We would echo those thoughts
- **Heath (Toronto):** you can add a vote from me too, for the working poor tgp
- **Heath (Toronto):** AS LONG AS THEY DON'T SUPPRESS THE TOP DECILES !!! :)
- **Mike:** Agreed!
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** order working poor data by this group could help facilitate the development of a common definition of working poor across Canada. which in turn could help with future comparative analysis.
- **Heath (Toronto):** good point!
- **Natalie Hui (York Region):** Along the same, for concepts such as precarious employment, job-skill match. We have hard time to settle with an operational definition here at York Region as different people are using different data to come up with indicators for those concepts.
- **Mike:** we have a discussion going with some other members
- **Heath (Toronto):** Yes, Natalie, Anna and Valentyn from York are in on the emails

#### Other

- **Auburn & Blair:** When can we expect the first batch of this order to be in the catalogue?

- **Mike:** the first batch will be a patch work, if orders are in and we maintain priority, then... hoping a few TGP arriving before end of the month. Expect just a few weeks turnaround. One estimate was mid Feb, another mid-March.
- **Heath (Toronto):** Mike - are the TGP's based on the same content as the 2011 TGPs? or the 2016 Census Profiles?
- **Mike:** we would be going with the 2016 census profiles
- We will send updated version of the list after getting information from Statistics Canada and updated the priority list with requests and suggestions from the Leads. This updated list will have some promotions and demotions. **Action item.**
- **Jasmine Ing - The City of Calgary:** one suggestion: while we are working through these detailed purchasing questions, could we schedule meetings for 1.5 hours?
- **Heath (Toronto):** seconded
- **Sian (Calgary):** We are waiting for some input from Lisa and the LIPs on demoting the immigrant TGP. Will email you
- Next meeting week of Feb 12-16, 2018 – a doodle poll will be sent to the working group.